

CLAIMS:

1. A method of inhibiting DNA viral replication or the cytopathic effects of DNA viruses in host cells using an extract or combinations of extracts from one or more plants selected from the group comprising *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Sansevieria liberica*, *Ficus polita*, *Clausena anisata*, *Combretum aphanopetalum*, and *Alchornea cordifolia*.
2. A method of inhibiting RNA viral replication or the cytopathic effects of RNA viruses in host cells using an extract or a combination of extracts from one or more plants selected from the group comprising *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Sansevieria liberica*, *Ficus polita*, *Clausena anisata*, *Combretum aphanopetalum*, *Alchornea cordifolia*, and *Elaeophorbia drupifera*.
3. A method of inhibiting bacterial growth in a host using an extract or combinations of extracts from one or more plants selected from the group comprising *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Rauwolfia vomitoria*, *Combretum aphanopetalum*, *Alchornea cordifolia*, and *Elaeophorbia drupifera*.
4. A method of inhibiting in vitro HIV infections in human T lymphocyte cells and mononuclear phagocytic lineage cells infected with HIV comprising contacting said cells with a pharmaceutical preparation comprising an extract or combinations of extracts from one or more plants selected from the group comprising of *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Ficus polita*, *Clausena anisata*, *Alchornea cordifolia*, and *Elaeophorbia drupifera* at concentrations of said extracts which are effective to inhibit HIV replication, inhibit HIV cytopathicity, inhibit accelerated death of PBMCs from HIV infected patients, or kill HIV chronically infected cells.
5. A method of inhibiting in vitro viral infections of human cytomegalovirus, herpes simplex virus types 1 and 2, and other viruses found in immunosuppressive states (such as AIDS) and in immunocompetent states, in cell lines of human and animal origin,

comprising contacting said cells with a pharmaceutical preparation comprising an extract or combinations of extracts from one or more plants selected from the group comprising *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Sansevieria liberica*, *Ficus polita*, *Clausena anisata*, *Combretum aphanopetalum*, *Alchornea cordifolia*, and *Elaeophorbia drupifera* at concentrations of such extracts which are effective to inhibit viral replication and cytopathicity.

6. A method of treating bacterial infections in immunocompetent patients and opportunistic bacterial infections in immunosuppressive states using an extract or combination of extracts from one or more plants selected from the group comprising *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Rauwolfia vomitoria*, *Combretum aphanopetalum*, *Alchornea cordifolia*, and *Elaeophorbia drupifera*.

7. A method of differentiating between poliomyelitis virus types I, II, and III using an extract or combination of extracts from one or more plants selected from the group comprising *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Sansevieria liberica*, and *Ficus polita*.